

Paperwork Flood Hits Justice Dept.

By Jerry Kluttz

Paperwork is the bane of bureaucracy and that desperate cry you hear from Robert F. Kennedy's Department of Justice is from a major Federal agency "drowning" in paper of its own making.

The Department has appealed to all of its 31,724 employees for help to save it from the Frankenstein monster it has created and it has urged its officials to rid themselves of their "costly status symbols"—copying machines.

S. A. Andretta, the career official who as Administrative



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Attorney General, is the watchdog of the Department's spending, has asked for the cooperation of all operating heads to hold down the "alarming" increase in spending for travel, printing, phone calls, and other expenditures under the general heading of miscellaneous.

No one could have thrown sharper verbal darts at the Department's operating record. Andretta frankly told the administrative staff that "... our cost of doing business is running ahead of production ... our rate of expenditures exceeds the increase in business ... we find it very difficult to justify our requests for large increases" before Congress.

But one could easily see, in reading his directive, that it was the ballooning paper dragon that got his dander up. Andretta used choice words and phrases to try to mobilize the Department's staff to stem the huge flow of paper through their offices. It was an indignant career official who scornfully wrote in part of the paper problem:

"Another source of rapidly spiraling expenditure is the unrestrained use of copying machines and the resulting cost of paper and supplies. The Department is being drowned in paper. The introduction of copying machines was intended to save time and money but it has created a monster that is feeding on itself.

"The growth in the use and number of copies is fantastic—far in excess of reasonable demands and the requirements of every-day work. Among other things, this volume of copies places a great strain on filing equipment. It is a wonder the Department got along before there were such contraptions.

"It seems now that we have gone from the sublime to the ridiculous and that apparently everything is being copied by machine and the good old carbon copies are a thing of the past. I am sure that most have no idea of the cost of producing copies.

"Apparently because of sales pressure, the possession of a copying machine has become a costly status symbol, not justified by the results obtained. I do hope you will develop

'Sting' Man Felt Was a Bullet

Ruben D. Blake felt "a sting" in his derriere as he was getting into his car yesterday. It turned out he had just been shot.

Blake, 34, listed at 821 48th ave., Capital Heights, was admitted to Prince Georges Hospital where his condition was satisfactory.

County Detective Lt. Richard A. Pearson said the shot was probably a stray one fired by someone in the woods.

some means of controlling and curtailing this business.

"In view of the President's program on manpower utilization, it would seem that we should revert to getting more help from personnel by having copies made rather than transferring the burden to a machine. The practice of typing an original document and then reproducing it on a copy machine to obtain multiple copies must be discontinued.

"The use of machines has yet to result in any reduction in manpower and requests for additional personnel continue. Paper and supplies for these machines are costing over \$125,000 annually and the rental of machines averages \$1000 per month."

And just to prove his memo wasn't an exercise in futility, Andretta is reported to have canceled the rental of several machines and also to have cut back orders of copying paper.

At another point in his economy-oriented memo, Andretta bluntly declared that travel to attend meetings and conferences is "getting out of hand and should be drastically curtailed."

He also told his operating staff that long distance phone calls were made when the use of less costly teletype and air mail would serve the purpose. Then he said something which is said to have ruffled the feathers of both New Frontiersmen and holdovers from the Eisenhower crusade. He suggested:

"If every caller had to submit a memo explaining and justifying the need of the telephone call, abuse would soon stop."

The employees and officials alike don't doubt that Andretta might try such a system to control long distance phone calls unless their cost and number is cut back. Commented one with dripping sarcasm:

"If Andretta does anything like that he'd be the first to do it and it would be suicide."